

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As children, we all dreamed, “when we are grown up, then we will... be the boss, not have to eat our vegetables, wear whatever we like, stay up as late as we want... “the list changed with whatever we were being forced to do.

As a teen it was, “when I’m an adult, then... I can date whoever I want, I can stay out as late as I want and do anything I like, I won’t have to answer to anyone...” this list usually had to do with freedom from control.

As young adults it was, “when I’m done with college this I can... or when more experience or a better paying job then I will be able to... have a family, go on vacations, afford a better car...” the list was different, but they were still dreams.

As we age our “when...then” dreams change but they seem to be always there. “When I’m more set financially then I will.... Or “when my kids are out of diapers then we can...” or “when my kids are all in school then I’ll....” Or “when we’re not so busy running, then there will be time for...” or even, “when I retire then....”

We live in a “when...then” society. Instead of living in the present, we are constantly dreaming of and reaching for the next best thing.

One big problem with the “when...then” life is that we rarely reach “then”. We rarely are at a place of satisfaction or a time where all those things we planned or dreamed get done.

How many of you always thought, “if the world would just slow down, then I would be able to ...learn to paint, be a better cook, write a novel, take more time in Bible study or prayer...”

In the spring of 2020, a lot of our world shut down. All of the sudden there was no school, no ballgames to run to, no restaurants or bars or theatres to hang out in, not even any church to go and attend in person. While society took a forced stop, did you accomplish all you had planned? Did you learn an instrument or get to do your hobby? Is the novel at the publishers? Did you learn to bake bread? Did you study God’s Word more or talk to God more in prayer? If not, why didn’t you?

Living in a “when...then” cycle is much easier than taking care of our problems, dreams or relationships in the present. Living in them doesn’t require the hard work and dedication it takes to be good at something, learn something new or dedicate yourself to something with your heart.

Right now, I often hear people of the church saying, “when things are all back to normal, then the church will be what it used to be.”

I think it’s time to stop the “when...then” thinking in the church and in our world. It’s time to see that nothing is going to “magically” return to the way it was pre-covid 19. No matter what you believe about Covid-19, no matter how angry or afraid the last year and a half made you, it’s time to change our way of thinking about the present.

I am not saying that things can’t be as good or even better than they were. I AM saying that things will be different. I am saying the only way things will get better is if we make it that way.

Do you want the church to prosper, then you had better work at it with your heart, your time and your pocketbook. Do you want the pews to be full? Then you need to stop making excuses and be there. If you can not or choose not to be here in person, you can still support the church and its missions in the world.

We need to accept that change has happened. We need to stop dreaming of a magical, “when...then” future. We need to use the time we have now as a gift from our Maker in our church and all of our lives.

Pastor Janet Miller

HOPES HAPPENINGS

*Please remember that worship time changes on September 5th to 11:00am.

*Our coffee hour will begin again on Sept 12th at 10:00am.

*Anyone wanting to donate to the Mission of Lutheran World Relief school backpacks for this year needs to drop off your donations to the church by Sept. 19th. If you don't have time to shop for the backpack materials, you may make a donation and we will do the shopping for you. The quilts and kits from our congregation will be blessed in the worship on Sept. 19th. A special offering will also be taken to help pay shipping costs.

*Rally Day! We will begin our Sunday School Year on Sept. 12th at 10:00am. This year's Rally Day theme is "Super Heroes of the Bible" and we will learn about "strong and brave heroes who changed the world for Jesus." We will also learn how we can be super heroes doing the work of our God. We still need some teachers and someone to be the superintendent. A person who loves music would also be wonderful to help with openings and get the kids singing.

*Please be aware that for everyone's safety, the council and pastor Janet are listening to the CDC, our state and our local guidelines for Covid-19 precautions. Should we reach the time again where masks are required, we will let you all know. Please be safe and be a good neighbor to those around you. If you feel more comfortable with masks, we can provide you with one in the narthex.

***We will be giving out Bibles to the 3rd and 4th grade classes in the 11:00am worship on Sept. 12th.**



Council-August 11, 2021

P: Cody Sumner, Tim Gapp, Dustin Holt, Kathy Brink, Becky Pies, Pastor Janet, Jim Arten.

A: Elsie Seffrood, Jorja Whempner, Sarah Smith

O: Anne Seffrood, Dawn Wright

Opened with devotion and prayer

Secretary report read-M-Kathy, 2nd-Tim. Approved

Treasurer report read-Anne let council know the church received an anonymous gift of 2000 gallons of propane. She asked the council to decide on the health insurance plan for the pastor for the upcoming year. M-Tim, 2nd-Becky to approve the Gold premium plan from Portico Ins. Motion approved. M-Cody, 2nd-Kathy to approve the treasurer report. Approved.

Pastor report-4 funerals, 1 wedding, and 1 baptism with another wedding and baptism coming up. Reported on VBS-70 kids attended with 10 helpers, pastor has been writing an article for the Wilmot paper, she will be installed as Pastor at Goodhue in Florence on August 15, Confirmation was discussed, Fall Theological Conference on September 20th-22nd, next council meeting-Sept 19th following Worship, youth group will meet on Wednesday, September 8. M-Becky, 2nd-Cody. Approved

New Business

*Coffee hour- will begin again on September 12 at 10:00 am.

*Need for Sunday school teachers and a superintendent was discussed. Kathy and Dawn volunteered to teach and more teachers will be looked for. Discussed classes and curriculum.

*God's Work, Our Hand's Sunday, September 12-pastor looking for ideas.

Old business

Boiler inspection report-a couple of items need to be tended too.

Cemetery report- Tim will be in contact with individuals who are interested in selling land adjacent to the cemetery. It was also discussed on finalizing plans to cleanup and remove fencing around the cemetery. Discussion on updating the map of cemetery was also brought up. Will continue to move forward on plans in the upcoming months. Discussed Lutheran Outdoors' campaign fundraiser and Seeds for Hope.-plans will be made for both.

Next meeting-September 19 following 11:00 am Worship

Meeting adjourned

Closed with Lord's Prayer.

The

Lord
is *my Shepherd*

Psalm 23:1



Prairie Coteau Conference Women of the ELCA Fall Retreat

September 22, 2021

Registration: 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

NeSoDak Bible Camp

(Enemy Swim Lake, Waubay)

\$10.00 (includes lunch and resources)

Offering: Orphan Grain Train

Love Offering: NeSoDak Bible Camp

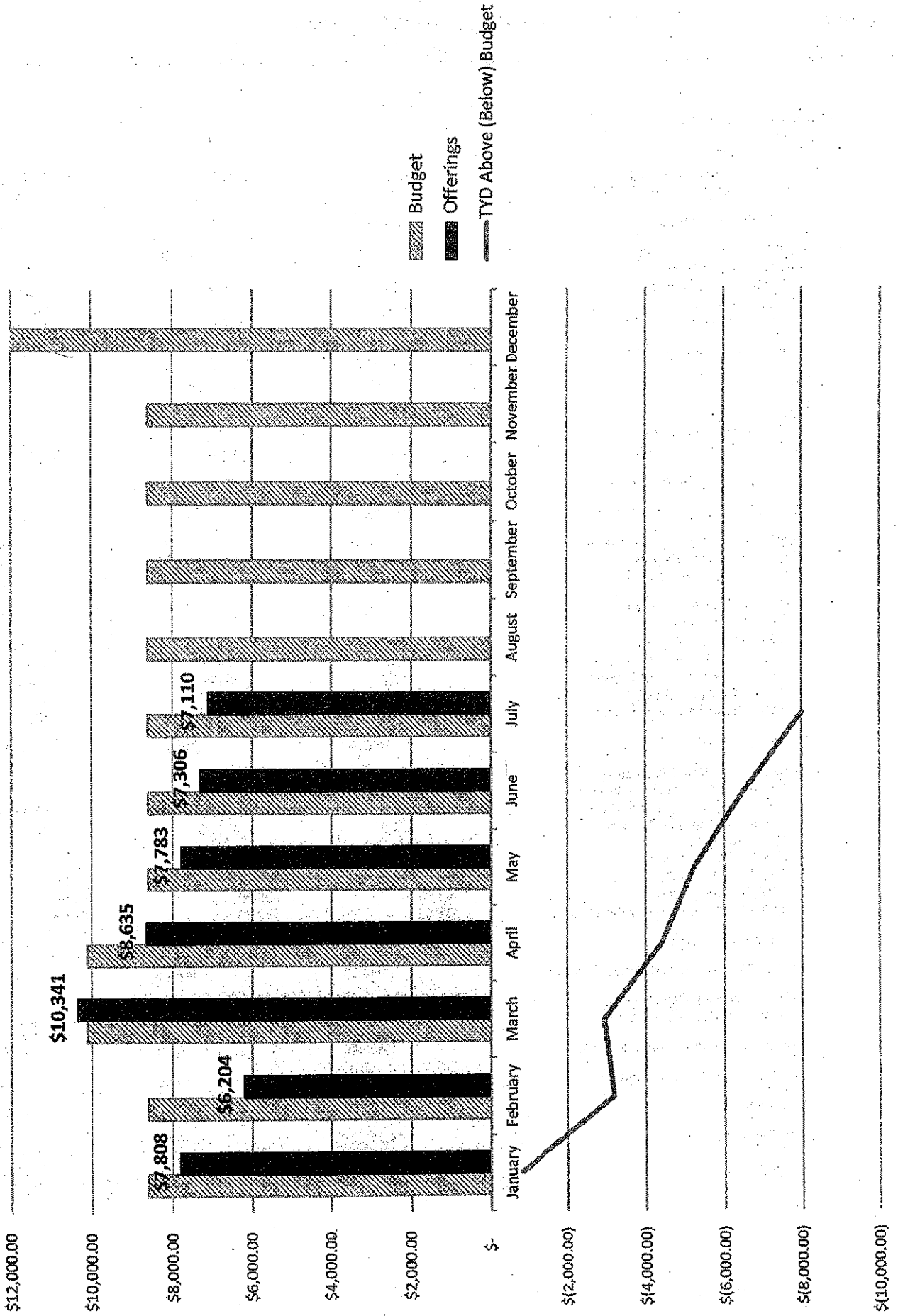
The Works” toilet cleaner, copy/printer paper, pens, pencils, washable markers, dry erase markers, binder clips, 9-volt batteries (for smoke alarms), Forever stamps, aerosol air freshener, Kleenex, clear storage totes with lids (70 quart or 18 gallon), 60-watt LED lightbulbs, and monetary donations

Hope Lutheran Church
Offerings and Expenses
July 2021

	Jul 21	Jun 21	Jan - Jul 21
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
41000 · Offerings			
41100 · Regular Offerings	7,110.00	7,306.00	54,091.87
41200 · Special Services Offerings	0.00	0.00	1,094.00
Total 41000 · Offerings	7,110.00	7,306.00	55,185.87
42100 · Gifts & Memorials	50.00	-25.00	2,555.00
44000 · Other Income			
44100 · Interest Earned	0.18	0.22	49.98
44200 · Thrivent	0.00	0.00	1,382.00
44000 · Other Income - Other	0.00	1,500.00	2,810.03
Total 44000 · Other Income	0.18	1,500.22	4,242.01
Total Income	7,160.18	8,781.22	61,982.88
Expense			
66000 · Payroll Expenses			
66100 · Pastoral Payroll	7,553.42	7,553.42	52,870.13
66300 · Other Church Payroll	550.00	550.00	3,850.00
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	8,103.42	8,103.42	56,720.13
61800 · Continuing Ed & Conferences	0.00	0.00	445.40
63300 · Insurance Expense	259.34	259.34	1,815.38
63100 · Worship & Education	111.26	0.00	1,090.51
63200 · Fellowship Expenses	0.00	0.00	35.13
62000 · Office Expenses			
62200 · Office Supplies	171.00	0.00	668.66
62300 · Printing and Reproduction	122.19	79.59	522.74
62500 · Dues and Subscriptions	0.00	104.49	104.49
62600 · Postage and Delivery	36.39	37.25	630.46
62000 · Office Expenses - Other	15.66	15.66	109.62
Total 62000 · Office Expenses	345.24	236.99	2,035.97
67000 · Church/Building Expenses			
67350 · Audio & Video Equipment	0.00	0.00	1,810.42
67100 · Landscaping Expenses	760.00	0.00	760.00
67200 · Repairs and Maintenance	0.00	30.20	326.00
67400 · Utilities			
67410 · Propane/Heat	0.00	13.79	62.70
67420 · Electricity	79.22	142.54	1,504.95
67430 · Water/Sewer	68.00	68.00	464.00
67440 · Telephone & Internet Expen...	92.46	92.58	647.58
Total 67400 · Utilities	239.68	316.91	2,679.23
Total 67000 · Church/Building Expenses	989.68	347.11	5,565.65
61400 · Charitable Contributions			
61410 · Synod Mission Support	1,863.16	0.00	3,768.55
Total 61400 · Charitable Contributions	1,863.16	0.00	3,768.55
69000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	4.95	9.90	59.40
Total Expense	11,677.05	8,956.76	71,536.12
Net Ordinary Income	-4,516.87	-175.54	-9,553.24
Net Income	-4,516.87	-175.54	-9,553.24

2021 Monthly Offerings vs Budget

(does not include memorials, special gifts, other income)





South Dakota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

September 2021 Newsletter Inserts

From the Bishop's Desk

Friends in Christ,

How does the old saying go? Time flies when you are having fun! I hope you are enjoying your summer. Part of the end of summer is to look forward to starting Fall activities. As congregations, we usually plan for Rally Sunday, Fall dinners and next year's budget. Before you dive deep into budget planning, I would like to extend an invitation to you as a leader in the church.

Please join your synod staff for a zoom evening of all things stewardship, budgets, and mission planning. We had a leadership hour in the winter and over 100 leaders attended, surveys showed that "fun was had by all". So, we are doing it again, showing up in your world via a Zoom leadership hour on **Tuesday, September 7 from 7 PM CT to 8 PM CT**. Sign-up at sdsynod.org. This free event is meant to accompany your congregation on preparing for ministry in 2022. And as a bonus, please check out our revitalization resources on the synod website, which will help you to steward ministry post-pandemic. I hope to see you on Zoom!

Journeying together in Christ,
Bishop Constanze

Thank You for your support!

Rev. Jonathan Steiner

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries across South Dakota! If you've talked with me, you have probably heard me say that we are stronger churches together. When we network and share our resources, we are able to do more as a group than any of us could do alone.

God blesses us, and calls us to share those blessings with our neighbors. Thank you for continuing to live that out. I am still amazed that last year, 98% of the pledges were still met, despite the chaos of the pandemic starting. As we head into the fall this year, I invite you to continue to live out that same spirit of generosity.

God is up to incredible things through our ministry together. Thank you for being part of that work as we Journey Together in Christ!

Staying Connected

One of the challenges I have found over the past few months as your Companion Synod Coordinator is how to make sure that we and our brothers and sisters in Christ in our Companion Synods of Nicaragua and Cameroon feel connected.

From what I understand, this has never been the easiest task, as we are separated by thousands of miles, and even an ocean in the case of Cameroon. But it has been much more challenging over the past year – as so much of our lives have been – by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has basically shut down travel by groups from our Synod to and from those places.

The marvels of modern technology have helped some, allowing video conferencing to bridge the distance between our locations. But an even more powerful way to feel connected is a tried-and-true action that has been around for thousands of years and does not require a high-speed internet connection: prayer. Keeping one another in prayer can help us feel connected to the rest of the body of Christ no matter how far away, as the Holy Spirit works through us to, as Martin Luther writes in the Small Catechism, gather us and keep us together with Jesus Christ "in the one true faith."

Thank you for keeping our Companion Synod in your prayers! As always, if you'd like to learn more about these relationships, you can find out more at <https://sdsynod.org/companion-synods/>, or you can always email me at companion-synod@sdsynod.org.

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Rev. Renee Splichal Larson

Whenever I have the privilege of installing a pastor or deacon, I am always moved by these questions to the congregation: "Will you pray for your rostered minister? Will you help and honor them in carrying out this ministry? In all things, will you strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?"

All who are gathered respond: "We will, and we ask God to help us."

As we steep ourselves in God's Word, God teaches us how we are to strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ. From Ephesians 4.31:

"Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you."

Perhaps we could all benefit from inscribing this living Word on our doorposts and on our hearts. What I keep hearing over and over, even from people who have lived much longer than me, is that never before have they felt

such division. The church is not immune to the division we experience in our communities and world, and yet, we are called to live differently. We are claimed by Christ in baptism, and called into communities of faith who practice what it means to be part of the Kingdom of God. The reality in the Kingdom of God here on earth, is that we strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ; that we communally live out Ephesians 4.31, with the help of God.

We continue to step into unfamiliar territory in 2021. Some things seem to be exactly the same. Other things, especially for those who have lost family or friends to COVID, or other causes, appear that they will never be the same. Our children are not yet vaccinated and remain vulnerable to infection (as well as those who are unable to be vaccinated for whatever reason), as new variants become known. To be frank: It is exhausting to continually weigh every decision, and wonder whether or not people will ever come back to worship. This. Is. Hard.

We need to hear, again and again, Christ's promise at the end of the Great Commission: "And remember, I am with you always to the end of the age (Matt. 28.20)."

Be gentle on yourselves, dear people of God. Be gracious and merciful with one another. Honor the Sabbath and keep it holy. You will need weekly rest, as you trust that God holds you and all our congregations. God sustains God's church! Know that your Synod staff remembers and prays for you.

In these difficult times we treasure and cling to these words of Christ: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light (Matt. 11.28-30)."

We did nothing to earn this life. All we can do in exchange is to give it away.

What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. James 4:14

My 20-something niece spent a couple weeks housesitting for her boss this summer. She watered the plants, checked the refrigerator, walked the dogs, fed the dogs, watered the dogs, cleaned up after the dogs, and slept over most nights. But she didn't knock out any walls or throw wild parties. She didn't buy the place. It wasn't hers to do with what she wished. She was a caretaker until the owner returned to hopefully find happy, healthy pets and a home in as good or better condition than the day he left her with the keys.

"I like to think of our lives the same way. We didn't earn this life. We don't own our bodies or the world in which we find ourselves. Out of the overflow of God's love, (God) created us and gave us the opportunity to take care of a small space in the world for a while. (God) gave us gifts and bodies and belongings, all entrusted to us for a time so we could give love to more people. It's actually a huge responsibility when you think about it. We were entrusted with God's precious creation so we could preserve what's beautiful and welcome more people into a life of abundance.

"If you find yourself giving in to a sense of greed and entitlement, remember the world isn't ours for the taking. We're just stewards meant to pass it on better than we found it. We've been given a gift to be built upon and shared. All we can do in exchange is give it away."

--Bob Goff, **Live in Grace—Walk in Love.**

Your life can make a difference. *If you're considering how to pass along your own small space in this world where God has appointed you caretaker, Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD can help. Contact Kathy McHenry at (605) 274-5030 or kmchenry@sdsynod.org for a personalized plan.*

Stay Connected to the South Dakota Synod!

Sign-up for the weekly newsletter from the South Dakota Synod at sdsynod.org.

Connect with us on Facebook at [facebook.com/sdsynod](https://www.facebook.com/sdsynod), follow us on Instagram and Twitter @SDSynod.

September

2021

Hope Lutheran

Hope Lutheran will have coffee and fellowship time during Sunday School at 10 :00am from Sept. 12th on.

Florence Parish will have coffee and fellowship after worship.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Office Day Summit Florence Youth group	2 Pastor at Conference Dean zoom meeting Summit quilting 9:00	3 Wedding rehearsal	4 Wedding at Florence
5 Florence Worship 9:00am Summit Worship 11:00am	6	7	8 Office Day Summit	9 Pastor to present at Rostered leaders meeting	10 visits	11
12 Rally Day! Sunday School 10:00am worship 11:00 -- Bibles given to 3-4grade	13	14 Bible Study at Florence 2:00pm	15 7:00pm Summit Youth Group and National Youth Convention info meeting	16 Conference Dean zoom in morning Summit quilting 9:00	17 Visits Newsletter items due	18
19 Florence 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Hope Worship 11:00am council to follow worship	20 Fall Theological in Pierre	21	22	23 Visits	24 Visits	25
26 Florence 9:00am Hope Sun. School 10:00 Hope worship 11:00am	27	28	29 Office Day Summit	30 Pastor at synod meeting		

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 886
SUMMIT, SD 57266

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NUMBER 2

"WORDS OF HOPE FROM HOPE"

Volume 48, Issue 9

September 2021

Address Service Requested

Printed monthly at Hope Lutheran Church

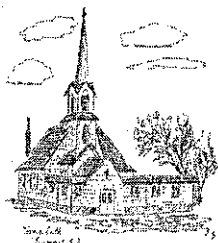
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Pastor Janet Miller-cell #605-237-8005/home #605-947-4482

Secretary Dawn Wright -cell #605-881-4377

Find us on Facebook: Hope Lutheran Church and www.seesummitsd.com

Follow us on YouTube: Hope's Children



September 2021

“It is the mission of Hope Lutheran Church to help people grow in their faith; to be a leader in the community; to serve the needs of all people; and to teach/educate all people.

Anniversaries and Birthdays (please let me know if there is an error or omission) 

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1-Kathy Brink | 18-Mary Arten |
| 1-Todd and Billi Whempner | 19-Craig Kneeland, Val Moen |
| 3-Jess Carson | 22-Lisa Amdahl |
| 3-Karter Nelson, Oriena Adolph | 22-Rhonda Steinocker, Karin and Corrie Quale |
| 4-Frank Redlin | 23-Kaitlyn Christofferson |
| 9-Jace Wohlleber | 24-Bruce and Diane Kneeland |
| 9-Gary and Heather Crandall | 24-Tom Thuringer |
| 10-Wylie and Nicole Pays | 26-Sam Seffrood |
| 10-Macaffery Young, Matthew Amdahl | 27-Mike and Sherrie Larson |
| 10-Ben and Brittany Graff | 28-Jennifer Lewandowski |
| 11-Eugene and Rhonda Steinocker | 28-Andrew Amdahl |
| 11- Hunter Bourassa | 29-Beth and Randy Hills |
| 14-Talon Smith | 29-Stetson Sumner |
| 16-Bruce Kneeland | 30-Dani Zubke |